

Floor Statement of Rep. Lois Capps
Safe Climate Caucus
May 21, 2013

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the growing threats that climate change poses to public health.

Increasingly severe and frequent weather events and heat waves not only directly threaten people's health and safety, but also jeopardize food crop production and the availability of clean drinking water.

Foodborne illnesses, asthma, and cardiovascular disease are also expected to worsen in a changing climate.

Despite these anticipated impacts, however, most American health professionals do not have the tools they need to prepare for the changing needs of their patients.

And climate change's threats to human health will only escalate with every day that we fail to take action.

That's why, last week, I reintroduced the Climate Change Health Protection and Promotion Act, which will help health professionals prepare for and respond to the public health impacts of climate change.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot continue to turn a blind eye to the impacts of climate change especially when it comes to the health of our friends, neighbors, and families.

I hope we can work together to pass this and other commonsense measures to address the critical issue of climate change.